

**ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2008**  
**VILLAGE OF WAPPINGERS FALLS MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM**  
**2628 SOUTH AVENUE**  
**WAPPINGERS FALLS, NEW YORK 12590**

**(PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ID# 1302783)**

**INTRODUCTION:**

To comply with State and Federal regulations, the Village of Wappingers Falls Municipal Water System will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standards. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact the office of the Village of Wappinger Falls Water Department, 2628 South Avenue, Wappingers Falls, New York 12590, (845) 297-3716, Extension 6. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings of the Village Water Commissioners on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 2628 South Avenue in Wappingers Falls.

**WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?**

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic and chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The Village of Wappingers Falls well field consists of three (3) inactive wells located on an 8.0 acre parcel of land situated to the east of the New York State Route 9D (West Main Street) along the northerly banks of Wappinger Lake. At the time the last well was taken out of service, regular analytic testing of possible organic and/or inorganic contaminants had shown the water to be of adequate quality for drinking water purposes.

In 2008, all of the Village Water Supply was purchased from the City and Town of Poughkeepsie Joint Water Board through the existing pipe interconnection with the Town of Poughkeepsie. Please see the Annual Water Report prepared by the Poughkeepsie Joint Water Board for additional information regarding the water source and quality.

- Well #3 (inactive) is a 12" x 18" gravel pack type well, 95 feet in depth, originally constructed in 1959 and re-drilled in 1997. Well No. 3 is the primary production well. In 2006, the average daily output for the wellfield was approximately 213,161 gallons per day (gpd). This equates to a single well output rate of approximately 148 gallons per minute (gpm). Well No. 3 was taken off line in October 2006 due to the change to chloramine disinfection.
- Well #4 (inactive) is a 12" x 18" gravel pack type well 100 feet in depth, originally constructed in 1965 and re-drilled in 1997. Well No. 4 was taken offline in October of 2003 due to an increase in iron content.
- Well #5 (inactive) is a 24" x 30" gravel pack type well, 105 feet in depth, originally constructed in 1984. Well #5 was taken off line in 1994 due to significant increases in iron content.
- Well #1 and #2 (inactive) are permanently out of service.
- An interconnection with the Town of Poughkeepsie Water System was installed during the latter months of 1996, and was put into operation on February 5, 1997. The interconnection was made on DeLavernne Avenue in the vicinity of the Village of Wappingers Falls Water Storage Tank, and was equipped with a subsurface concrete vault housing metering, backflow prevention, and pressure reducing equipment. This interconnection allows the Village of Wappingers Falls system to draw a minimum of 450,000 gallons and a maximum of 750,000 gallons per average day from the more historically reliable Joint City/Town of Poughkeepsie surface water source (Hudson River) during times of decreased wellfield production and/or emergency conditions. In October 2006 the Village well field was taken offline and the Poughkeepsie Interconnection has since provided all water to the Village system. The Town of Poughkeepsie Interconnection provided approximately 550,575 gallons per average day during 2008. Additional information regarding the Joint City/Town of Poughkeepsie Water System can be found in the Poughkeepsie Water Treatment Facility Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008. The Village Water Board recently signed a five year, short term contract with the Poughkeepsie Joint Water Board in 2007 to purchase up to 750,000 gallons of water per day for the Village water supply.

The Village of Wappingers Falls water storage facilities consist of three (3) tanks.

- The Wenliss Tank has a capacity of 1.4 million gallons.
- The DeLavernne Tank has a capacity of 545,000 gallons.
- The Hillside Tank has a capacity of 170,000 gallons.

During 2008 our system did not experience any restriction of our water source.

The following treatment processes are utilized at the Village of Wappingers Falls Municipal Water System:

- Water supplied from the Town of Poughkeepsie Treatment Facility utilizes the conventional filtration process. The water is disinfected using a combination of ultraviolet light and chlorine. Chloramine is used to maintain a residual disinfectant throughout the distribution system. Additional information regarding the Joint City/Town of Poughkeepsie Water System can be found in the Poughkeepsie Water Treatment Facility Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2008.

The NYSDOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumer is, or will become contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected, if any. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

The source water assessment has rated our well field water source as having an elevated susceptibility to microbial and nitrate contamination. These ratings are due primarily to the residential land use and related activities in the assessment area. In addition, the wells draw from fractured bedrock and the overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination. It is noted that the Village well field was not used as a water supply source during 2007. Plans are currently being developed to upgrade and expand the Village Well field facilities so that the well field can again be used as the primary Village water supply source.

The county and state health departments will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning and education programs. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us, as noted herein.

### **FACTS AND FIGURES:**

The Village of Wappingers Falls Municipal Water System serves an estimated 6,000 people through approximately 2,310 service connections.

In 2008, the Village of Wappingers Falls and the Town of Poughkeepsie Interconnection had a total output of 200,960,041 gallons or approximately 550,575 gallons per average day. All of this total output was purchased from the Town of Poughkeepsie Interconnection. The total billed water during the same period (excluding municipal usage) was 152,055,781 gallons or approximately 416,591 gallons per average day. Estimated losses, municipal usage, flushing of the water system, and/or non-billed water theft accounted for 133,984 gallons per average day (24.3%±). In 2007, Village of Wappingers Falls water customers were charged \$6.51 per 1,000 gallons of water used (65/100 cent/gallon).

### **ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER:**

As the State regulations require, the Village of Wappingers Falls Water System routinely tests your drinking water for numerous contaminants. Testing is performed in conformance with the provisions of Part 5 of the New York State Sanitary Code. A brief outline of said testing is as follows:

- Water quality samples for iron, manganese, hardness and chlorine residual are collected through the distribution system on a daily basis for treated water. The hardness of the service (treated) water ranges between 5 and 10 grains (soft).
- Water quality samples for hardness and chlorine residuals are collected at the Town of Poughkeepsie Interconnection on a daily basis.
- **Microbial Samples:** Two representative samples from the Dutchess County Health Department approved sites are taken monthly. Six (6) total samples are collected and analyzed for coliform bacteria monthly. No maximum contaminant level (MCL) exceedances were recorded in 2008.
- **Radiological Samples:** Samples are taken every 48 months at the wells and system entry point and analyzed for Gross Alpha and Beta particle activity. No MCL exceedances were recorded for 2008.
- **Inorganic Contaminants:** Samples are taken every 36 months at the entry point to the distribution system and analyzed for inorganic contaminants. No MCL exceedances were recorded for 2008.
- **Organic Contaminants:** Samples are taken every 36 months at the wells and entry point and analyzed for principal organic contaminants (P.O.C.'s). No MCL exceedances were recorded for 2008.
- **Synthetic Organic Contaminants:** Samples are taken every 18 months at the wells and entry point and analyzed for Synthetic Organic Contaminants (S.O.C.'s). No MCL exceedances were recorded for 2008.

Complete analytic testing results are available for public inspection at the offices of the Village of Wappingers Falls Water Department, 2628 South Avenue, Wappingers Falls, New York 12590, (845) 297-3716.

The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg. Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
INORGANICS							
Nitrate	No	10/27/05	1.32	mg/L	10	MCL=10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	No	08/08/06	130	mg/L	N/A	MCL=250	°Naturally Occurring °Road Salt Contamination
Manganese	No	02/11/08	ND <sup>3</sup>	ug/L	N/A	MCL=300	°Naturally Occurring °Landfill Contamination
Sodium	No	08/08/06	81.6	mg/L	N/A	See(2) Health Effects	°Naturally Occurring °Water Softeners °Road Salt
Sulfate	No	08/08/06	32	mg/L	N/A	MCL=250	°Naturally Occurring
Iron	No	05/02/06	5	ug/L	N/A	MCL=300	°Naturally Occurring
Lead	No	10/2007	1.6 <sup>1</sup> ND – 8.3	ug/L	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing system
Copper	No	10/2007	0.072 <sup>1</sup> 0.0056 – 0.10	mg/L	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Total Tri-halomethanes	No	09/06/08	24.0 – 65.0	ug/L	N/A	80	°By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	No	09/06/08	2.9 - 30.0	ug/L	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE)	No	08/08/06	0.3	ug/l	N/A	10	Releases from gasoline storage tanks. MTBE is an octane enhancer in unleaded gasoline
Fluoride	No	11/06/07	0.77	mg/L	N/A	2.2	Water additive to promote strong teeth. Discontinued use in 2008
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS							
Gross Alpha Activity	NO	02/04/05	1.7	pCi/L	0	MCL=15	°Erosion of Natural Deposits
(Include Radium 225, but excluded Radon and Uranium)							

<sup>1</sup> The level presented represents the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 20 sites tested. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead values detected in your water system. In this case, 20 samples were collected at your water system and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value was the third highest value (2.0 ug/l). The action level for lead was not exceeded at any of the sites tested. (ND – Not Detected).

<sup>2</sup> Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

<sup>3</sup> A sample from the distribution system was collected and tested for Manganese, but this substance was not detected (ND-Not Detected).

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Dutchess County Health Department at (845) 486-3400.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefit of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.
- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- **Non-Detects (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- **Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million – ppm).
- **Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion – ppb).
- **Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in Water.

## **WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?**

As you can see from the previous table, the Village of Wappingers Falls Water System had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

## **IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?**

During 2008, the Village of Wappingers Falls Water System was in compliance with all applicable State drinking water requirements.

## **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## **WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?**

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water.

- Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life.
- Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential fire fighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and be looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water.

Conservation tips include:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in you home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it up and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS – DECEMBER 2007 – DECEMBER 2008:**

In 2008, the Village of Wappingers Falls Water System made the following capital improvements:

- One (1) new hydrant installed; Four (4) hydrants replaced. New hydrants help improve fire protection and the water department's ability to flush mains
- Two (2) new valves installed; Four (4) valves replaced. New valves will allow the Water Department to shut off mains in the water system and isolate areas of the water system for repairs, maintenance, and additions.
- Replacement 8" main on Mill Street between East Main Street and High Street. New line will improve water quality and flow rate in the area. New pipe replaces an old main that was prone to breaks.
- Replacement of 4" main on Reserve Place with new 8" main. New 8" line eliminates the old, now undersized, 4" line to improve flow in the area.

- Extension of 8" main on Wenliss and Stuart Avenues to serve new housing.
- Replacement of a section of the water main on Prospect Street with new 8" pipe. New pipe will improve flow rate and water quality in the area.

The Village Water Department has moved its business office from the Mesier Park Homestead to the Village of Wappingers Falls, Village Hall at 2628 South Avenue. The Water Department requires that all final meter readings, upon the sale or other transfer of a property, must be taken directly from the meter inside of the house or building. If a water meter is old and does not have a remote display, it must be replaced. Residential meters are replaced by the Water Department. Commercial meter replacements are the responsibility of commercial property owners. The Water Department also must be notified in advance if the outside meter display unit needs to be removed from the exterior of any home or building for any reason. If a remote display unit is removed by a property owner or their contractor in order to perform work on the exterior of a building, the unit must be reinstalled immediately upon completion of the work by the property owner.

### **FUTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:**

- Replacement of Water Service meters with 'Radio-Read' transmitter capability
- West side Route 9: 12" water main connection to 12" under road.
- Industrial Park Water Line Replacement
- Well-head and Aquifer Protection Programs.
- Lead lines replacement.
- Old mains replacement.
- Backflow Prevention Program.
- Drill and Complete Backup Well to Well No. 7
- Install Automated Mixers in Water Storage Tanks.
- Well # 7 completion.
- Treatment system (softener) reconstruction.
- Emergency generator, pump station
- 300,000 gallon elevated storage tank – East side of Route 9.

Possible Future Capital Improvements:

- Iron & Water Quality Filtration.
- Rehabilitation of the Hillside Storage Tank.

The Water Board increased Village water rates in August 2008. This increase helped cover the continually rising costs associated with providing an adequate, safe water supply and maintaining the distribution system. No rate increases are anticipated for 2009.

### **CLOSING:**

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year, We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community and our way of life. Please call our office if you have questions.

Water Commissioners – Village of Wappingers Falls